

NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION[571]

Notice of Intended Action

Twenty-five interested persons, a governmental subdivision, an agency or association of 25 or more persons may demand an oral presentation hereon as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.4(1)“b.”

Notice is also given to the public that the Administrative Rules Review Committee may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this proposed action under section 17A.8(6) at a regular or special meeting where the public or interested persons may be heard.

Pursuant to the authority of Iowa Code subsection 455A.5(6), the Natural Resource Commission hereby gives Notice of Intended Action to amend Chapter 91, “Waterfowl and Coot Hunting Seasons,” Iowa Administrative Code.

These rules give the regulations for hunting waterfowl and coot and include season dates, bag limits, possession limits, shooting hours, and areas open to hunting. The proposed amendments make annual adjustments to season dates to comply with federal regulations and to ensure the seasons open on weekends.

Any interested person may make written suggestions or comments on the proposed amendments on or before April 27, 2010. Written comments may be directed to the Wildlife Bureau’s Web site at www.iowadnr.com or may be sent to the Wildlife Bureau Chief, Department of Natural Resources, Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0034; fax (515)281-6794. Persons who wish to convey their views orally should contact the Wildlife Bureau at (515)281-5034 or at the Wildlife Bureau offices on the fourth floor of the Wallace State Office Building.

There will be a public hearing held via the Iowa Communications Network on April 27, 2010, from 6 to 9 p.m. Interested persons should contact the Department at (515)281-5034 for a list of hearing locations or go to the Department's Web site at www.iowadnr.com. At the public hearing, persons may present their views either orally or in writing. Participants will be asked to give their names and addresses for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of the amendments.

Any persons who intend to attend the public hearings and have special requirements such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments should contact the Department of Natural Resources and request specific accommodations.

These amendments are intended to implement Iowa Code sections 481A.38, 481A.39, 481A.48 and 483A.7.

The following amendments are proposed.

ITEM 1. Amend subrules 91.1(2) and 91.1(3) as follows:

91.1(2) *Season dates - north zone.* For all ducks: September ~~19~~ 18 through September ~~23~~ 22 and October ~~10~~ 16 through December ~~3~~ 9.

91.1(3) *Season dates - south zone.* For all ducks: September ~~19~~ 18 through September ~~23~~ 22 and October ~~17~~ 16 through December ~~10~~ 9.

ITEM 2. Amend subrules 91.3(2) and 91.3(3) as follows:

91.3(2) *Season dates - north zone.* Canada geese and brant: September ~~26~~ 25 through October ~~4~~ 10 and October ~~10~~ 16 through December ~~13~~ 12 and December ~~19~~ 18 through January ~~3, 2010~~ 2, 2011. White-fronted geese: September ~~26~~ 25 through December ~~6~~ 5. Light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross’ geese): September ~~26~~ 25 through January ~~10, 2010~~ 9, 2011.

91.3(3) *Season dates - south zone.* Canada geese and brant: ~~September 26~~ October 2 through October ~~4~~ 10 and October ~~17~~ 16 through December ~~13~~ 12 and December ~~19~~ 18 through January ~~10, 2010~~ 9, 2011. White-fronted geese: ~~September 26~~ October 2 through December ~~6~~ 12. Light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross’ geese): ~~September 26~~ October 2 through January ~~10, 2010~~ 9, 2011.

ITEM 3. Amend subrule 91.3(7) as follows:

91.3(7) *Light goose conservation order season.* Only light geese (white and blue-phase snow geese and Ross' geese) may be taken under a conservation order from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from January ~~11, 2010~~ 10, 2011, through April 15, ~~2010~~ 2011.

a. to e. No change.

ITEM 4. Amend rule 571—91.6(481A) as follows:

571—91.6(481A) Youth waterfowl hunt. A special youth waterfowl hunt will be held on October ~~3 and 4, 2009~~ 9 and 10, 2010, in the north duck hunting zone and October ~~3 and 4, 2009~~ 9 and 10, 2010, in the south duck hunting zone. Youth hunters must be residents of Iowa as defined in Iowa Code section 483A.1A and less than 16 years old. Each youth hunter must be accompanied by an adult 18 years old or older. The youth hunter does not need to have a hunting license or stamps. The adult must have a valid hunting license and habitat stamp if normally required to have them to hunt and a state waterfowl stamp. Only the youth hunter may shoot ducks and coots. The adult may hunt for any other game birds for which the season is open. The daily bag and possession limits are the same as for the regular waterfowl season, as defined in rule 571—91.1(481A). All other hunting regulations in effect for the regular waterfowl season apply to the youth hunt.